

2086

Executive Registry
83-2797

att 12 B3-2749

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 24, 1983

Dear Dick:

I am delighted to extend my warm congratulations as the Veterans of the OSS honor you with their William J. Donovan Award. Few could be more deserving of this award than you. Indeed, few careers in government have been more distinguished or exciting than yours.

History seems to have singled you out for a role in some of the most critical events of our century. As a journalist, you saw the Third Reich firsthand. As a Navy officer during World War II, you served ably in the OSS. As a civil servant, you played a role in the founding and direction of the Central Intelligence Agency from its earliest days. As a director of the CIA, you earned national acclaim for your leadership. And as a diplomat, you served with distinction as our ambassador to Iran.

Your public service, your unflinching patriotism, your high standards of professionalism, and your commitment to the call of conscience have earned you the respect of your countrymen.

It is a special privilege for me to join with the Veterans of the OSS -- all heroes themselves -- in saluting you with the Donovan Award and in thanking you for your long years of service to the cause of human freedom.

Sincerely,

*Ronald Reagan*

The Honorable Richard Helms



STAT

B-301



*[Handwritten signature]*